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LETTER DATED 13 MAY 1992 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CUBA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith, as annexes to this letter, the texts of editorials published by the North American newspapers The Boston Globe and The New York Times on 18 August 1989 and 20 July 1990 respectively.

The two articles refer to the issue concerning which I wrote to you on 8 May and, previously to that, on 27 April. They reflect the attitude of some sectors of United States opinion with regard to the hypocrisy of the position adopted by the Washington Government, which on the one hand pretends to oppose international terrorism and on the other shelters two notorious terrorists who have been in its service for many years.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annexes circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ricardo ALARCON DE QUESADA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Cuba
to the United Nations

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Annex I

[Original: English]

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August 18, 1989, Friday, City Edition

SECTION: EDITORIAL PAGE; Pg. 12

A terrorist test for Bush

President Bush is fending off an embarrassing bid by some in Miami's Cuban-American community to prevent the deportation of the godfather of anti-Castro terrorism, Orlando Bosch. The president preempted an inappropriate lobbying effort by Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, a Republican congressional candidate, telling her the deportation is "not a presidential matter."

The June deportation order describes Bosch as "having repeatedly expressed and demonstrated a willingness to cause indiscriminate injury and death."

The 62-year-old Cuban-born political fanatic barely bothers to deny that charge. In a reply to the Immigration and Naturalization Service, he wrote, "Churchill said that wars are, unfortunately, a competition of cruelties. And Thomas Jefferson said the tree of liberty has to be unfailingly watered with the blood of tyrants, heroes and innocents, which are its natural fertilizer."

Bosch is in a class with terrorists such as Abu Nidal. There is overwhelming evidence that he masterminded the 1976 bombing of a Cuban airliner taking off from Barbados that killed 73. He spent 11 years in jail in Venezuela for that atrocity.

Bosch's partner in the airliner bombing was Luis Posada Carriles, freed from jail in Venezuela to become a logistics officer in the support team supplying the CIA-backed contras in San Salvador in 1986. Posada disappeared from view after the Hasenfus supply flight was shot down and the Iran-contra affair began to unravel.

Cuban exiles in Miami are divided about Bosch. Some, especially from the older generation, are fanatic in their support. Others acknowledge that right-wing terrorism is as execrable as any other terrorism, though few state that position openly, lest they become targets.

The Bosch-Posada case showed how the US can sink into an association with terrorism. If Bush allows Bosch's deportation to go forward, he will regain some of the moral authority to criticize terrorism.

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Annex II

[Original: English]

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The New York Times

July 20, 1990, Friday, Late Edition - Final

SECTION: Section A: Page 26, Column 1: Editorial Desk

The Bosch Case Does Violence to Justice

The release from jail of Orlando Bosch, convicted of terrorist violence and officially deemed a most undesirable alien, is a startling example of political justice. The Justice Department, under no legal compulsion but conspicuous political pressure, has let him out, winning cheers from local politicians - and squandering American credibility on issues of terrorism.

Dr. Bosch, a Cuban pediatrician known more for bombings than medicine, has been a hero in the anti-Castro communities of South Florida. He was imprisoned two decades ago for planting bombs on ships and firing a bazooka at a Polish freighter in Miami's harbor. Later he jumped parole and fled to Latin America, where U.S. authorities say he engaged in numerous anti-Cuban bombings. He returned illegally two years ago and was held for deportation. The Government says that only Cuba is willing to accept him.

There's a growing revulsion about terrorism even among the bitterest Cuban exiles, but Senator Connie Mack, Representative Ileana Ros-Lehtinen and other politicians have lobbied intensely for Dr. Bosch's release. President Bush's son Jeb, a Republican leader in South Florida, joined the political chorus. Their cries were heard. Justice got the prisoner to accept a form of house arrest and agree not to consort with violent people. As soon as he was released, however, Dr. Bosch vowed to conduct himself as he pleased during his daily three hours outside his home.

Justice contends lamely that its hand was forced by a Federal judge who seemed to be pressing for his release. But Judge William Hoeveler, who last November emphatically affirmed the department's power to lock up a deportable alien, had merely inquired whether the Government intended to jail Dr. Bosch indefinitely.

In the name of fighting terrorism, the United States sent the Air Force to bomb Libya and the Army to invade Panama. Yet now the Bush Administration coddles one of the hemisphere's most notorious terrorists. And for what reason? The only one evident is currying favor in South Florida.